In recent times, trade interests have proven to be the cornerstone of the EU's external and internal actions. Commitment and tireless leadership to uphold the EU's fundamental values have proven to be nothing but delays and empty words. The human rights serve solely as a political instrument and are applied selectively. This benefits none of the EU's citizens and costs them unnecessary money.

IFUD of Human Rights

Joint statement on the humanitarian situation in Gaza

Brussels, 12 August 2025

Joint statement on behalf of 27 partners on aid to Gaza and restrictions facing NGOs

The humanitarian suffering in Gaza has reached unimaginable levels. Famine is unfolding before our eyes. Urgent action is needed now to halt and reverse starvation. Humanitarian space must be protected, and aid should never be politicised.

However, due to restrictive new registration requirements, essential international NGOs may be forced to leave the OPTs imminently which would worsen the humanitarian situation still further. We call on the government of Israel to provide authorisation for all international NGO aid shipments and to unblock essential humanitarian actors from operating. Immediate, permanent and concrete steps must be taken to facilitate safe, large-scale access for the UN, international NGOs and humanitarian partners. All crossings and routes must be used to allow a flood of aid into Gaza, including food, nutrition supplies, shelter, fuel, clean water, medicine and medical equipment. Lethal force must not be used at distribution sites, and civilians, humanitarians and medical workers must be protected.

We are grateful to the US, Qatar and Egypt for their efforts in pushing for a ceasefire and pursuing peace. We need a ceasefire that can end the war, for hostages to be released and aid to enter Gaza by land unhindered.

This statement has been signed by:

The Foreign Ministers of Andorra**, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy*, Japan, Latvia*, Liechtenstein**, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland**, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK.

Kaja Kallas, Dubravka Šuica and Hadja Lahbib.

** Updated on 12 August 2025 at 16:31 CEST.*

** Updated on 13 August 2025 at 18:01 CEST.*

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